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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 KATHMANDU 001309

SIPDIS

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TAGS: [PTER](#) [PGOV](#) [NP](#)

SUBJECT: MAOIST PARTY PLENUM DECRIES ELECTIONS; CASTIGATES
U.S.

Classified By: CLASSIFIED BY DCM ROBERT K. BOGGS. REASON: 1.5(B,D).

¶1. (C) Summary: An undated Maoist press release, signed by Party President Prachanda, reported the successful conclusion of a Party plenum. The Nepali-language release outlines the contents of a "political and organizational proposal" presented by Prachanda which highlights a purported U.S. plot to "capture" South Asia and "encircle" China; criticizes the government's scheduling of elections as a false "drama"; and renews previous calls for an interim government and a constituent assembly. The statement appears to be an attempt to influence the Government of Nepal (GON) to postpone elections in favor of establishing a constituent assembly. End summary.

¶2. (C) An undated Maoist press release, signed by Party President Prachanda, reported the successful conclusion of a Party plenum. (Note: The release does not state where or when the meeting, whose probable participants are on the Nepali Government's most wanted list, took place, but one leftist party leader insists the location was in India. The release began appearing in local media in late June. End note.) The statement reports the presentation of a "political and organizational proposal" by Prachanda. The proposal, entitled "New Situation and New Responsibility," charges that the U.S., in order to deflect attention from domestic political and economic problems, is planning "a volcanic clash between imperialism and the victimized countries" by capturing South Asia and encircling China. The American plans, Prachanda contends, offer "a new historic role" for South Asians to unite to defeat imperialism.

¶3. (U) Most of the proposal's vitriol, however, is reserved for the "feudal, tyrannical power" of the Palace, the "terror" perpetrated by the Royal Nepal Army (RNA), and the Palace's "worthless servant" Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba. The Maoist broadsheet charges that this triad connived to preserve the state of emergency and dissolve Parliament to frustrate purported support from political parties, including the Maoists, and others "for dialogue and a peaceful, positive way out." Calling mid-term elections when the country is locked in "a deadly civil war" was a "wicked move," Prachanda's statement says, and heaps criticism on the Communist Party of Nepal - United Marxist Leninist (UML), the largest Opposition party, for agreeing to participate. (Note: A week after the release appeared in the press, one UML party worker was killed, five severely beaten, and five abducted by Maoists in Rukum District. End note.) Maoist comrades, along with supporters "of the historic people's movement of 1990" should unite in "another historic movement in order to establish an interim government . . . and elections for the constituent assembly."

¶4. (U) Prachanda's statement further alleges that the "People's Liberation Army" has improved markedly during the six months since the imposition of the state of emergency, noting progress in equipment, training and expansion to a brigade level. The Maoists could quickly finish off the RNA "if it does not receive support from foreign imperialists," the release charges, adding "the RNA's morale survives only on the backing of America and the UK." He also reported decisions to make "important changes in organizational structure" and "military mobilization."

¶5. (C) Comment: This latest press release was remarkable for its length (more than three pages of text, single-spaced) and for language even more tortured and convoluted than usual. Although a censorious phrase or two directed at the U.S. is standard fare in Maoist propaganda, the discussion of purported U.S. regional ambitions--and our "plan" to encircle China--is new. (Given the America-against-South Asia flavor of the accusations, India, which is usually coupled with the U.S. as enemies of the people in most Maoist diatribes, merited not even a mention this time.) Although recent Maoist statements usually contain oblique references to talks, this is the first time since the state of emergency that we've seen such explicit renewed calls for dialogue, an interim government, and a constituent assembly. The intense criticism of the proposed November 13 general elections is yet another indication that the insurgents intend actively to sabotage them. The references to dialogue may be intended to

signal Maoist willingness to be involved in a constituent assembly, should one be constituted if elections are postponed. The leader of the leftist UML, which reportedly maintains back-channel contacts with the Maoists, told the Ambassador that he had firm evidence that the party plenum was held in India, probably with the knowledge of Indian intelligence agencies.

MALINOWSKI